

NPL Site Narrative for Acme Solvent Reclaiming(Morristown Plant

ACME SOLVENTS RECLAIMING, INC. Morristown, Illinois

Federal Register Notice: [September 8, 1983](#)

Conditions at listing (July 1982): The Acme Solvents Reclaiming, Inc., Site covers 20 acres in a rural area of Winnebago County, about 1.5 miles from Morristown, Illinois. Starting in 1960, Acme reclaimed waste solvents through distillation. Still bottom material and waste drums, both full and empty, were disposed of into numerous shallow, unlined pits. In late 1972, the State started an administrative action requiring Acme to stop its disposal operations. In 1973, the waste ponds were covered over, although partially buried drums are still visible.

Monitoring by the State and county, which started in April 1981, detected low levels of organic compounds, including trichloroethylene, methylene chloride, and tetrachloroethylene, in shallow private wells. Four private wells were closed, and the residents began to use bottled water. The shallow aquifers are hydrologically connected to the deeper, highly productive aquifers that supply water to large industrial and municipal wells in the Rockford vicinity.

Status (July 1983): In August 1982, EPA issued Notice Letters

requesting that the owners of Acme undertake a hydrogeologic investigation at the site. Acme declined. In June 1983, EPA awarded a \$292,365 Cooperative Agreement to Illinois for a remedial investigation/feasibility study to determine the type and extent of contamination at the site and identify alternatives for remedial action. The work is scheduled to be completed in the second quarter of 1984.

[The description of the site (release) is based on information available at the time the site was evaluated with the HRS. The description may change as additional information is gathered on the sources and extent of contamination. See [56 FR 5600](#), February 11, 1991, or subsequent FR notices.]